

**City of Kingston Arts Commission
Meeting - Thursday, August 4, 2016 – 4:30 p.m.
City Hall**

MINUTES

Attendance

Commission members in attendance were: Micah Blumenthal, Ruth Ann Devitt-Frank, Richard Frumess, Lara Giordano, Susie Linn, Linda Marston-Reid and Ward Mintz.

Absent: Alderman, 5th Ward (Common Council liaison)

Excused: Anne Bailey

Guests: Chris Silva, Bardavon/UPAC

Call to Order

Richard called the meeting to order at 4:30.

July Minutes

Ward moved to approve the May meeting minutes, Ruth Ann seconded, and all agreed. RA will correct one typo, then post on the City's site.

Business Cards

Susie presented a design with the KAC email address and City logo, which was approved by those in attendance. She will produce personal cards for each member.

Meeting Guest: Bardavon Executive Director Chris Silva

Three main long-term goals:

- To extend performance season to a full 12 months/year
- Extending outreach to underserved communities, particularly in Midtown
- Complete comprehensive restoration, which includes new HVAC that will allow the theater to be open during the summer

How he sees City:

- Changing/evolving all the time/slow pace but positive
- Sees a handful of new, more eclectic restaurants in Midtown. So far, PAKT and Peace Nation seem to be approaching marketing by tying more directly with events at UPAC, which other restaurants that have come and gone did not consistently do.
- Lace Mill, E-Square and Arts District are great projects and UPAC includes in fundraising proposals

Concerns/Suggestions

- Raising funds needed to complete restoration/HVAC
- Believes Arts District steering committee should focus on better defining itself and marketing not on events; fall event would be labor-intensive and preaching to the choir. Should wait until there is a major announcement to make. A better move right now would be to implement signage that identifies aspects of the Arts District.
- Mentioned that the Bardavon has been reducing print ads and printed material quantities in favor of electronic marketing, which is far less costly.

Other

- Detailed discussion on gentrification and Arts District ensued

Other Business

- There were brief discussions on: 1) prospective nominees for the opening on the Arts Commission 2) KHS mural restoration 3) inventory of Public Art. There was not sufficient time to adequately address these and other agenda topics, so they will be transferred to the September agenda.

Next Meeting

The next Arts Commission meeting will take place on **Thursday, September 1 at 4:30 p.m.**
Monthly meetings will return to the second Thursday in October.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00.